

Amendments to the Specification:

In the English translation document of the amended sheets, please delete the term --Description-- at page 1 line 1 before the title.

In the English translation document of the amended sheets, please add the section heading and paragraph at page 1 line 5, after the title, as follows:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is the US National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2004/051756, filed August 10, 2004 and claims the benefit thereof. The International Application claims the benefits of German application No. 10339039.1 DE filed August 25, 2003, both of the applications are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.--

In the English translation document of the amended sheets, please add the section heading at page 1 line 5, after the newly added CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS section, as follows:

--FIELD OF INVENTION--

In the English translation document of the amended sheets, please add the section heading at page 1 line 11, as follows:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 2 line 5, as follows:

--SUMMARY OF INVENTION--

In the English translation document, please amend the paragraphs at page 2 lines 5-12, as follows:

An ~~The~~ object to the invention is therefore to specify an improved method for transmitting data packets between network nodes of an optical network.

This object is achieved by a method according to ~~claim 1~~ independent claims.

Advantageous further developments are set forth in the ~~sub-claims~~ dependent claims.

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 3 line 4, as follows:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 3 line 18, as follows:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION--